1	2
270.	Vanthai Pola (Tamil)
271.	Jhansi Ki Rani
272.	Golmal
273.	Kya Kool Hain Hum
274.	Dard Ka Rishta
275.	Refugee
276.	Ishq-Vishq

Outstanding payments to TV Broadcasters by DAVP

365. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) has not made payments to TV broadcasters to tune of more than Rs. 30 crores as on 31st March, 2007;

(b) if so, the details of payment due to various TV broadcasters as on 31st March, 2007; and

(c) the reasons for not clearing the payments of these broadcasters and by when the payments would be made to the broadcasters?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to non-receipt of funds from the client Ministries, about Rs. 33.65 crore was outstanding to various TV Channels as on 31st March, 2007. Pending bills are being cleared on receipt of the requisite funds from the client Ministries. The matter has already been taken up at appropriate levels and the defaulting client Ministries have been impressed upon the expedite the release of funds to DAVP, so that the outstanding dues to TV Broadcasters are cleared.

Retrenchment of workers

366. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been large scale retrenchment of workers of late because of loss of export earning on account of rupee appreciation vis-a-vis U.S. Dollar; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken so see that the workers jobs are protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The figures of retrenchment of workers for the period 2006 and January to September, 2007 compiled by Labour Bureau, Shimla are given in Statement. (*See* below). However, quantum of large scale retrenchment because of loss of export earning on account of rupee appreciation vis-a-vis U.S. Dollar are not available.

(b) Department of Commerce had constituted an expert committee which submitted its report in July 2007. On the recommendations of the Department of Commerce, the Ministry of Finance agreed to provide the following relief measures:

(i) Partial enhancement of Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPB), Duty Drawback.

(ii) Reduction of Interest in respect of pre and post shipment credit.

Export Credit Guarantee Corporation under the Ministry of Commerce reduced premium rates to provide relief to exporters.

Statement

NUMBER OF UNITS AFFECTING RETRENCHMENT AND WORKERS' RETRENCHED THEREIN DURING 2006 AND JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER, 2007 BY SPHERES.

Year	Central Sphere		State Sphere		Total	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
2006(P)	5	627	19	257	24	884
2007(P) (Jan. to Sept.)	3	18	4	74	7	92

A = Number of Units
B = Number of Workers Affected
P = Provisional
Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla

NOTE: The information for the years 2006 and 2007 is based on the returns/clarifications received in the Labour Bureau till 31st October, 2007.

Revised integrated Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers in Orissa

367. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Revised Integrated Housing Scheme for Beedi workers in Orissa, out of the 1825 applications sent, sanction in respect of 332 applicants has been received; and

(b) what is that action plan of Government to sanction funds for the remaining 1493 cases, indicating the time-frame within which it would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A total number of 1824 applications for construction of houses by the beedi workers were received from the Orissa State Government and all the applications have been approved by the Ministry.

Need to make Provident Fund claim easy

368. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state what are the details of steps taken by Government to make claim for Provident Fund easy following the recommendations by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): The recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour are considered from time to time and appropriate action thereon is taken wherever necessary. In so far as settlement of claims is concerned, the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme has been amended to provide settlement of a claim which is complete in all respects, within thirty days from the date of its receipt by the concerned office.